

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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Cont

1. A method of recycling a digital camera comprising:  
a communication section which outputs image data to an external device; and  
protecting means which covers the communication section and which is removed at times when the image data is output,  
wherein, after the protecting means is removed and the image data is taken out from the communication section, the communication section is once again covered by the protecting means.
2. A method of recycling a digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the protecting means covers the communication section and charging terminals for charging a power source.
3. A method of recycling a digital camera according to claim 1, wherein said protecting means is a sheet-shaped member which is elastic.
4. A method of recycling a digital camera according to claim 1,

wherein said protecting means is a protection film which wraps up the communication section and the charging terminals.

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5. A method of recycling a digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising an indicating means for indicating that said protecting means was removed.
  6. A digital camera according to claim 5, wherein said indicating means is a "seal broken" mark which is exposed when the protecting means is removed.
  7. A digital camera comprising:
    - a communication section which outputs image data to an external device, and
    - protecting means which covers the communication section and is removed at times when the image data is output.
  8. A digital camera according to claim 7, wherein the protecting means covers the communication section and charging terminals for charging a power source.

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9. A digital camera according to claim 7, wherein said protecting means is a sheet-shaped member which is elastic.
10. A digital camera according to claim 7, wherein said protecting means is a protection film which wraps up the communication section and the charging terminals.
11. A digital camera according to claim 7, further comprising indicating means for indicating that said protecting means was removed.
12. A digital camera according to claim 7, wherein said communication section is formed integrally with a body of the digital camera, and is a window whose transmission of data to and receipt of data from an external device is controlled by a CPU.
13. A digital camera according to claim 11, wherein said indicating means is a "seal broken" mark which is exposed when the protecting means is removed.

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14. A digital camera comprising:
    - a communication section which outputs image data to an external device, and
    - a protecting cover which covers the communication section and is removed at times when the image data is output
  15. A digital camera according to claim 14, wherein the protecting cover covers the communication section and charging terminals for charging a power source.
  16. A digital camera according to claim 14, wherein said protecting cover is a sheet-shaped member which is elastic.
  17. A digital camera according to claim 14, wherein said protecting cover is a protection film which wraps up the communication section and the charging terminals.
  18. A digital camera according to claim 14, further comprising indicating means for indicating that said protecting means was removed.

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19. A digital camera according to claim 14, wherein said communication section is formed integrally with a body of the digital camera, and is a window whose transmission of data to and receipt of data from an external device is controlled by a CPU.

20. A digital camera according to claim 18, wherein said indicating means is a "seal broken" mark which is exposed when the protecting means is removed.

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